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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN & BURGESSES OF THE BOROUGH OF GLASTONBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1947.

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Mr. Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1947. This is an interim report as instructed by Circular 170/47, and abbreviated in accordance with the directions of Circular 2067/40.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION:- Registrar General's Estimate: 4,948.

		M.	F.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS:	Legitimate	46	48	94
	Illegitimate	1	1	2
		47	49	96
STILL BIRTHS:	Legitimate	1	1	2
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
		1	1	2

Live Birth Rate:- per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 19·40

	Males.	Females.	Total.
DEATHS:	37	37	74

Death Rate, per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 14·95

Rates for England & Wales per 1,000 Population:-

BIRTH RATE: 20·5 DEATH RATE: 12·0

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES..... 0
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE..... 4

Rate per 1,000 Live Births: 41·6

Rate for England & Wales per 1,000 Live Births: 41·0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS):-

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths
Small Pox.....	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	1	0	0
Diphtheria.....	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid)	0	0	0
Measles.....	7	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	9	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.....	0	0	0
Dysentery.....	0	0	0
Malaria.....	0	0	0
Pneumonia.....	4	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	1	1	0
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	0	0	0
Other diseases notifiable locally: e.g. Erysipelas.....	1	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS:-

	New Cases:-				Deaths:-			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Year 1947 - all ages	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	0

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTALS	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at end of 1946.....	12	8	0	2	12	10
Total cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at end of 1947.....	12	7	0	2	12	9

WATER SUPPLY.

Practically the whole of the dwelling-houses in the Borough are supplied from the public mains, the figures being as follows:-

Laid on direct to houses.....	1,432
Water fetched from stand-pipe.....	3
	1,435
Houses (including isolated farms) with only a private well supply.....	12
Total dwellings in the Borough...	1,447

Sufficiency. The supply is constant and is usually adequate in a normal year, but, owing to the exceptionally dry summer of 1947 restrictions had to be imposed and the main (Low Level) supply was turned off at night for a period of four months.

Quality. The main supply is hard. Galvanised-iron service pipes are used and no difficulty is experienced due to plumbo-solvent action.

The supply from the main source (low level system) is Chlorinated by a permanent plant (Chloramine process). A temporary chlorinating apparatus has been installed on the High Level supply and this is to be replaced with a permanent plant (Chloramine process) very shortly.

Samples of water, as supplied to the consumer, are taken from both systems at monthly intervals for Bacteriological Examination and the results are satisfactory.

HOUSING.

At the outbreak of the War between 50 and 60 houses were known to your Sanitary Inspector and myself to be in such a state as to need inspection by us with a view to recommending demolition where this was necessary and, in my opinion, on the standards then in force, nearly all of these houses would have been considered unfit for habitation.

During the past 8 years the condition of these houses has deteriorated further and I have no doubt that, on a complete survey of housing conditions in the Borough, which must be made as soon as circumstances permit, more houses will be added to this list.

It must be realised that, in an old town like Glastonbury, there is a number of houses, which appear from the outside to be structurally sound and well-built, but where conditions as regards dampness, drainage,

lack of ventilation and light are such as to render them unhealthy, particularly for children.

It is, however, useless to present a programme of demolition until new houses can be provided for the persons to be displaced in addition to those required for new households and overcrowded families.

POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT.

Consulting Engineers have been engaged to report to the Council on Water Supply and Sewerage appertaining to post-war housing and post-war development generally and the proposals include:-

WATER SUPPLY. (1) The re-laying of the stoneware main at West Compton (work already commenced) (2) Works to render the Edgarley Reservoir water-tight (work already commenced) (3) the installation of a Booster Plant on the trunk main from West Compton, (4) the sinking of a new Bore-hole, (5) A scheme, with new Reservoir, for supplying the higher parts of the town and (6) the installation of permanent Chlorinating plant on the existing high level system at Wellhouse.

SEWERAGE. (1) The provision of a new Sewage Disposal Works including arrangements for the reception and treatment of trade effluents, (2) the re-laying of a section of the main sewer in Benedict Street to prevent flooding, (3) Sewers in connection with the post-war housing site at Windmill Field Hill and (4) remedial works at Northload Bridge Pumping Station.

POST-WAR HOUSING.

The site which the Council has acquired at Windmill Field Hill is sufficient for the erection of approximately 250 houses over a long term programme, and building thereon has been commenced.

Negotiations have taken place with the owners of sites at Tor View Avenue under Circular 92/46 and the erection of 20 Flats has been commenced as a first instalment.

Number of applications for Housing Accommodation on the Council's list at end of 1947: 257.

Provision of new houses in the Borough during 1947:-

	Erected & completed.		In course of erection.		Conversions or Adaptations *
	Perm-anant	Tempor-ary	Perm-anant	Tempor-ary	
By Local Authority	0	0	50	0	0
By Private Enterprise	6	0	4	0	5
TOTALS	6	0	54	0	5

* Alteration of premises not previously used for residential purposes into family units of accommodation.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

A summary of visits and matters dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector during the year is appended.

I am, Your obedient servant,

T. H. A. PINNIGER

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF GLASTONBURY.

Year 1947.

SANITARY INSPECTION:-

Visits and Inspections:-

Housing and Sanitary Defects	64
Drain-work, in connection with	111
Nuisances and the keeping of animals	34
Factories Act	16
Food & Drugs Act (including Ice Cream premises)	102
Milk & Dairies Orders	48
Rodent Control (including Sewers)	51
Unwholesome premises	10
River Pollution	33
Tents, Vans & Sheds	9
Infectious Diseases	3
Re Applications for Housing Accommodation & Overcrowding	39
Requisitioning of premises, in connection with	31
Salvage	21
Verminous or insect infestations	3
Housing Estate visits	38
Miscellaneous	59
	672

MATTERS DEALT WITH:-

Number of complaints received	52
Choked Drains cleared	11
Defective Drains repaired	9
Inspection chambers provided on existing drains	7
House drainage systems:- New provided	6
Connected up to Main Sewer	7
Water Closets repaired or renewed	13
Water Closets fitted with Flushing Cisterns	8
Earth or Chemical Closets replaced with Water Closets	4
Unsatisfactory Sanitary Conveniences closed	1
Septic Tanks or Cesstanks abolished	4
Defective Sewage Disposal Plants repaired	1
Unwholesome or Verminous premises cleansed or disinfested	1
Premises disinfected after Infectious Disease	2
Smoke nuisances	2
Refuse removal, communications received and attended to	17
Overcrowded Families re-housed	6
Improvements to Food Premises	5
River Pollution	3
Rats & Mice Infestations	8
Sewer man-holes baited for Rats(2 treatments)	22
Housing Defects remedied	21
Condemnations of unsound food	14
Interviews with applicants for Housing Accommodation	102
Factories Act: Newly occupied premises notified to H.M.Inspector of Factories	3
New Sanitary Conveniences provided	2
Unsatisfactory Sanitary Conveniences dealt with	3
Requests for Outworkers Returns	5
Samples of Water taken for Bacteriological Examination	26
Samples of Ice Cream taken	33
Samples of other Foodstuffs sent for Bacteriological Examination	2
Number of written informal requests issued	34
Number of Statutory Notices Served	2

H. W. HEMBURY.
Sanitary Inspector.